

Notation for antiderivatives

no limits of integration!

Write $\int f(x) dx$ to denote the most general antiderivative of $f(x)$.

e.g. $\int x dx = \frac{1}{2}x^2 + C$

We call $\int f(x) dx$ the indefinite integral of $f(x)$ with respect to x

Stewart, page 331:

Important!!!

⊗ You should distinguish carefully between definite and indefinite integrals. A definite integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ is a *number*, whereas an indefinite integral $\int f(x) dx$ is a *function* (or family of functions). The connection between them is given by Part 2 of the Fundamental Theorem: if f is continuous on $[a, b]$, then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \left[\int f(x) dx \right]_a^b$$

example (a) $\int_{-4}^4 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \text{DNE}$ b/c \sqrt{x} is not defined over $[-4, 4]$.

(b) $\int_1^4 \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = 2\sqrt{x} \Big|_1^4 = 2\sqrt{4} - 2\sqrt{1} = 2$

$$\int \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} dx = \int x^{-1/2} dx = \frac{1}{-\frac{1}{2}+1} x^{-\frac{1}{2}+1} + C = 2x^{1/2} + C = 2\sqrt{x} + C$$

Anti-power rule for $\int x^p dx$ on next page.

Some basic indefinite integrals

- $\int x^p dx = \frac{1}{p+1} x^{p+1} + C$ if $p \neq -1$.
 - $\int \sin x dx = -\cos x + C$
 - $\int \cos x dx = \sin x + C$
 - $\int \sec^2(x) dx = \tan(x) + C$
 - $\int \sec x \tan x dx = \sec x + C$
- ↑
Why? b/c $\frac{1}{p+1}$ is undefined when $p = -1$

General Rule of Thumb!

Differentiation is easy.

Integration is hard.

(But both have lots of important applications.)

Anti-power Rule is true because:

$$\frac{d}{dx} [x^p] = p x^{p-1} \quad / \quad p \text{ is a constant}$$

means $\int p x^{p-1} dx = x^p + C$

\parallel
 $p \int x^{p-1} dx$

Divide by p to get

$$\int x^{p-1} dx = \frac{1}{p} x^p + C$$

$$\int x^r dx = \frac{1}{r+1} x^{r+1} + C$$

write
 $r = p - 1$

$$p = r + 1$$

$$\int x^p dx = \frac{1}{p+1} x^{p+1} + C$$

Property for Indefinite Integrals

$$\int a f(x) + b g(x) dx \\ = a \int f(x) dx + b \int g(x) dx$$

Linearity

Every rule for differentiation gives a rule for anti-differentiation, but these are not always very useful, for example:

Quotient Rule

$$\frac{d}{dx} \left[\frac{f(x)}{g(x)} \right] = \frac{f'(x)g(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{g(x)^2}$$

$$\int \frac{f'(x)g(x) - f(x)g'(x)}{g(x)^2} dx = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} + C$$

Complicated and not ~~very~~ useful.
at all

Working with Mathematical Variables

A pair of variables — say u and v — can be either “dependent” or “independent”.

- The variables u and v are independent if changing one of the variables has no effect on the other variable. In other words each variable is considered to be constant with respect to the other.
- The variables u and v are dependent if changing the value of one does cause a change in the other variable. For example, if $v = f(u)$ for some function f then u and v are dependent. Another example would be if a and b are variables satisfying the equation $a^2 + b^2 = 1$ then a and b are dependent variables.

Important:

Basic Standing Assumption

If it is not explicitly stated that two variables are dependent then they are automatically considered to be independent.

Examples $\equiv \int_{-3}^0 x^2 dx + \int_{-3}^0 1 dx$

$$\textcircled{1} \int_{-3}^0 x^2 + 1 dx = \frac{1}{3} x^3 + x \Big|_{x=-3}^0 = 0 - \left(\frac{1}{3} (-3)^3 + (-3) \right) = 12$$

\parallel
 x^0

$$\textcircled{2} \int_{-3}^0 x^2 + 1 dt = (x^2 + 1)t \Big|_{t=-3}^0 = 3(x^2 + 1)$$

because $x^2 + 1$ is constant with respect to t .

$\textcircled{3}$ If $x = 2t^3$ then \leftarrow so x and t are dependent variables.

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-3}^0 x^2 + 1 dt &= \int_{-3}^0 (2t^3)^2 + 1 dt = \int_{-3}^0 4t^6 + 1 dt \\ &= \frac{4}{7} t^7 + t \Big|_{t=-3}^0 = \frac{8769}{7} \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{4} \int x^2 + 1 dt = (x^2 + 1)t + C$$

Conclusion: In either a definite integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ or an indefinite integral $\int f(x) dx$, the "differential" dx is a required and important part of the notation.

Strive to be meticulous in your use of mathematical notation